

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A support for a web forming machine having at least one die head and a web forming belt defining a machine direction, comprising:
a guide shaft having a length defining a y-axis;
a bushing housing having a cylindrical cavity; and
a cylindrical guide bushing positioned within the cylindrical cavity, the bushing housing and the guide bushing slidably positioned about a circumference of the guide shaft;
wherein the bushing housing is rotatable about a x-axis generally perpendicular to the y-axis.

2. (Original) The support of Claim 1, wherein the web forming machine is connected at a first side portion to the bushing housing.

3. (Original) The support of Claim 1, wherein the die head is positioned traverse to the machine direction.

4. (Original) The support of Claim 1, wherein the bushing housing and the guide bushing are movable along the length of the guide shaft to vary a vertical distance between the die head and the web forming belt.

5. (Original) The support of Claim 1, wherein the guide shaft is rigidly mounted to a guide post.

6. (Original) The support of Claim 5, wherein the guide shaft is mounted to the guide post with at least one guide shaft clamp block.

7. (Original) The support of Claim 5, wherein the guide post is rigidly mounted to a base.

8. (Original) The support of Claim 1, wherein the bushing housing forms a bore having an oval cross-sectional area.

9. (Original) The support of Claim 8, wherein the guide bushing forms a second bore, the second bore coaxially aligned with the bore formed by the bushing housing.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The support of Claim 1, wherein the bushing housing is rotatable by about 0° to about 45° about the x-axis.

12. (Original) A web forming machine support, comprising:
a guide shaft rigidly mounted to a guide post, the guide shaft having a length defining a y-axis;

a bushing housing positioned about a circumference of the guide shaft, the bushing housing rotatable about a x-axis generally perpendicular to the y-axis and slidably movable along the length of the guide shaft; and

a cylindrical guide bushing positioned within the bushing housing and about the circumference of the guide shaft;

wherein the web forming machine is mounted to the bushing housing, the web forming machine having a web forming belt linearly displaceable along the y-axis.

13. (Currently Amended) The web forming machine support of Claim 12, further comprising:

a second guide shaft laterally positioned with respect to the first guide shaft and rigidly mounted to a second guide post;

a second bushing housing positioned about a circumference of the second guide shaft, the second bushing housing rotatable about the x-axis and slidably movable along a length of the second guide shaft; and

a cylindrical second guide bushing positioned within the second bushing housing and about the circumference of the second guide shaft;

wherein the web forming machine is mounted to the second ~~guide~~ bushing housing.

14. (Original) The web forming machine support of Claim 12, wherein the guide post is rigidly mounted to a floor.

15. (Currently Amended) The web forming machine support of Claim 12, wherein the bushing housing is vertically positioned along the length of the guide shaft and the second bushing housing is vertically positioned along the length of the second guide shaft to adjust a vertical position of the web forming belt along the y-axis.

16. (Original) A support for a web forming machine having a web forming belt defining a machine direction, comprising:

a first guide post positioned on a first side of the web forming machine and rigidly mounted to a base;

a first guide shaft rigidly mounted to the first guide post;

a second guide post positioned on a second side of the web forming machine and rigidly mounted to the base;

a second guide shaft rigidly mounted to the second guide post;

a bushing housing connected to each of the first guide shaft and the second guide shaft, the bushing housing forming a cavity; and

a cylindrical guide bushing positioned within the cavity, the bushing housing and the guide bushing slidably positioned about a circumference of each of the first guide shaft and the second guide shaft and movable along a length of the first guide shaft and the second guide shaft;

wherein the web forming machine has a first lateral side portion and a second lateral side portion, the first lateral side portion fixedly connected to the bushing housing on the first guide shaft and the second lateral side portion fixedly connected to the bushing housing on the second guide shaft;

wherein the bushing housing is rotatable about a x-axis traverse to the machine direction and linearly displaceable with respect to a first die head along a y-axis perpendicular to the x-axis.

17. (Original) The support of Claim 16, wherein a distance between a front side of the first die head and the web forming belt is shorter than a distance between a back side of the first die head and the web forming belt.

18. (Currently Amended) The support of Claim 16, wherein a vertical distance between the first die head and the web forming belt is adjustable varied as the bushing housing moves along the length of the first guide shaft and the length of the second guide shaft.

19. (Original) The support of Claim 16, wherein a second die head is positioned downstream in the machine direction of the first die head.

20. (Original) The support of Claim 19, wherein a first vertical distance between the first die head and the web forming belt is different than a second vertical distance between the second die head and the web forming belt.